

Filed for intro on 02/22/95
Senate Bill _____
By _____

House No. HB1276
By Williams

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AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 11, Chapter 9, relative to the Tennessee Recreation Initiative Program.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 11, Chapter 9, is amended by adding Sections 2 through 4 of this act as an appropriately numbered new part.

SECTION 2. The title of this part is and may be cited as the "Tennessee Recreation Initiative Program of 1995".

SECTION 3.

(a) Any city or county wishing to participate in this program may apply for funding through a competitive matching grant process as established by the Department of Environment and Conservation's Recreation Services Division.

(b) Three (3) grants shall be awarded annually on the basis of need and population on a statewide basis, with one (1) award to be made in each grand division of the state. Those communities which shall have initial priorities in terms of participation in the program are:

(1) In the Western Division of Tennessee: Fayette, Henderson and Crockett counties;

(2) In the Middle Division of Tennessee: White, Clay, Perry, Lewis and Wayne counties as well as the city of Sparta; and

(3) In the Eastern Division of Tennessee: Union, Unicoi and Morgan counties as well as the city of Erwin.

(c) State grants and the individual community's match shall be used to hire a professional recreation and park director, to furnish and establish a recreation office and to hire two (2) part-time summer leaders to develop recreation programs.

(d) The grant shall be for a three (3) year period.

(1) During the first and second years in the program, the community shall match up to twenty five thousand dollars (\$25,000) from the state.

(2) The third year in the program, the community is responsible for one hundred percent (100%) of the funding for the new program. If the community fails to fund the third year, the dollar value of total grants received would be owed to the state because of the community's failure to fulfill its contract.

(3) After the third year, the community shall have no obligation to continue the program.

(e) State support during the grant period shall include:

(1) Assistance selecting professional staff;

(2) Staff training;

(3) Technical assistance on establishing a board or commission; and

(4) Additional funding opportunities.

SECTION 4.

(a) The total budget for this program in its first year of operation shall be:

(1) Three (3) new recreation programs at twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) each;

(2) Administration costs of eight thousand dollars (\$8,000) for each department;

(3) For a total of ninety-nine thousand dollars (\$99,000) expended by the state in the first year of the program.

(b) The implementation of this act is subject to funding in the general appropriations act.

SECTION 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 1995, the public welfare requiring it.

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